

Harold J. Wanebo and Shashikant Mehta
Serial No.: 09/287,884
Filed: April 7, 1999
Page 2

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2001
TECH CENTER 1600
1600
3300

- 16. (New) A method for increasing apoptosis in tumor cells comprising contacting the tumor cells with:
- a) an effective amount of paclitaxel and
 - b) an effective amount of C6-ceramide, sequentially or concomitantly, wherein the apoptosis induced by the combination of the paclitaxel and the C6-ceramide is greater than the apoptosis induced by contact of the tumor cells with either the paclitaxel alone or the C6-ceramide alone, thereby increasing apoptosis in tumor cells.--
- 17. (New) A method of decreasing a size of a tumor comprising contacting the tumor with:
- a) an effective amount of paclitaxel and
 - b) an effective amount of C6-ceramide, sequentially or concomitantly, wherein the induced decrease in size of the tumor by the combination of the paclitaxel and the C6-ceramide is greater than the decrease in size of a tumor after contacting the tumor with either the paclitaxel alone or the C6-ceramide alone, thereby decreasing the size of the tumor.--
- 18. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising paclitaxel in an amount effective to induce apoptosis of tumor cells and C6-ceramide in an amount effective to induce apoptosis of tumor cells and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.